

THE SILENT WORLD.

Vol. V.

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No. 7.

WHAT OF THE DAY?

From the Boston Transcript.

I.

"What of the day?" sang a bird to the sky,
Blithesomely soaring away from his nest,
But whether 'tis bright or cloudy, say I,
I will sing to enliven the rest,
And whichever it is will be best.

II.

"What of the day?" sang a violet blue,
Trembling at Spring's throbbing touch with delight;
But for love of the sunshine I'll drink up the dew,
I may droop ere the coming of night,
But shadow or sun, 'twill be right.

III.

"What of the day?" we question with tears,
Ere the heat of life's struggles has dried up its dew,
And we sing and we soar in our earlier years,
But we sigh ere the morning is through.
Yet the song of the bird was true.

IV.

Earth's silence is sometimes higher than song,
Its sighing is sometimes better than bliss,
And hearts needing growth may be lifted along
By the thrill of a parting kiss;
And the violet's song meant this.

DEAF AND BLIND.

Edward K. Dietrich, the subject of this rare and double misfortune, was born of German parents in Towanda, Bradford Co., Pa., in February, 1855.

When about eight years of age, he was rendered hopelessly blind and deaf by an attack of spotted fever. He was a peculiarly bright and winning child. In this sad and lonely condition he adapted himself with beautiful submission and cheerfulness to anything offered for his instruction or amusement. Soon after he became a pupil at the Pennsylvania Institution for the blind in Philadelphia. There was no novelty or pleasure for him in this change from home at first, as he had no means of communication with those about him.

But he was apt and anxious to learn, and guided by loving and skillful teachers, he soon acquired words and sentences by having them written upon his hand with the first finger of another, and always using his voice in answering questions lest he should lose it. In a short time he learned to read with his fingers the books in raised type used by the blind, and also to write legibly, and was thus enabled to share in nearly the whole routine of school duties.

For over eight years he was industrious and happy, and became expert in making brooms, cane-seating chairs, and in bead-work. He now lives with his mother and two brothers in this city, supporting himself and helping them by his trades. His neatness, intelligence, and winning manners have won him many friends and made him a favorite with his associates.

The deaf and dumb alphabet, being a slow method of communication, was given up for another more rapid and perfect. The tips of the fingers and thumb, the nails and each joint of his hand were made to represent a letter. Each finger spells a word, being lightly touched like the keys of a piano by his teacher. Through the devotion and skillfulness of an estimable young lady,

he has acquired a good education. The Bible in raised type has been read through several times with his fingers, and he has become a thorough Bible student.

He has carefully read and memorized much of the many useful, books printed in raised type, and having a very retentive memory few are more proficient. History, astronomy and natural philosophy and natural history and arithmetic, have been successfully studied.

This life of helplessness is full of interesting and instructive experiences. A noble heart shut out from all the blessing of sight and sound, he has made sunlight for many, and by his patience and cheerfulness is a constant illustration of the great lesson: "I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."

J. B. RICH, M. D., PHILADELPHIA.

A MODEL LAWYER.

Squire Johnson was a model lawyer, as the following anecdote will evince:

Mr. Jones once rushed into the squire's office in a great passion. "That infernal scoundrel of a cobbler, Smith, has sued me, Mr. Johnson—sued me for five dollars I owe him for a pair of boots."

"Then you owe him the five dollars?"

"To be sure I do; but he has gone and sued me—sued me."

"Then why don't you pay him, if you owe him?"

"Because he's sued me; and when a man does that, I'll never pay him till it costs him more than he gets. I want you to make it cost him all you can."

"But it will cost you something, to,"

"I don't care for that; what do you charge to begin with?"

"Ten dollars; and more if there is much extra trouble."

"All right! There's the X. Now go ahead!"

No sooner was his client gone, than Squire Johnson stepped across to his neighbor Smith, and offered to pay the bill, on condition that the suit be withdrawn. The shoemaker gladly acceded—all he wanted was his pay. The lawyer retained the other five for his fee, and as the case was not "troublesome," made no further demands upon his client.

Ten days after, Jones comes in to see how his case is getting along.

"All right," said the lawyer. "You won't have any trouble about that. I put it to Smith so strongly that he was glad to withdraw the suit altogether."

"Capital!" cried the exulting Jones. "You've done it up brown. You shall have all my business."

A GOOD JOKE is told by the Portland, Me., *Press* on one of the best officers of the police force of that city who was patrolling his beat when he found a man partially intoxicated. The officer spoke to him but received no answer. At last the officer decided that it was necessary to take him to the station house. The man resisted and the officer tried to reason with him, but was unable to get a single word in reply. After a hard struggle the man was carried to the station. Upon arrival there it was found that he was deaf and dumb, and supposed all the while that the officer was trying to kidnap him.

"MAKING MONEY."

"Fay," writing to the Louisville *Courier-Journal* of how money is made at the Treasury Department, says: "Take a dollar-Treasury note and look at it. There is a fine steel engraving of Washington—the man, not the city—in the middle of the note. In the left-hand corner there is 'The Landing of Columbus.' There is fine lace-work for the fine denomination, and the note has a lace-work border. Different artisans make these designs. It is not all the work of one engraver, for each one has his specialty."

No engraver can make two plates exactly alike, no more than the same man can paint two portraits so alike but what there will be some little shade or line in one that does not exist in the other. So, after the engravers make designs for the notes and the Secretary has accepted the design, the plate, being of hard metal, is subjected to a cylinder of solid steel, the metal of which is softer than the plate. The cylinder is laid on the plate, and subjected to a pressure of from one to twenty tons. As the plate is depressed, so are the figures and characters raised on the cylinder, which then undergoes a hardening process, and the plates for the notes are taken from the cylinder.

"From these all our notes are printed. By this process, every note printed is exactly alike, and counterfeits can easily be detected. These plates and cylinders can be used constantly for three months, when the plates are retouched by skillful workmen, who have an apartment especially devoted to their branch of work. In this room there are many specimens of fine steel engravings, for our country took the prize at Vienna for such work."

A CLERK had faithfully served Stephen Girard from boyhood to manhood. On the twenty-first anniversary of his birthday he went to his master and told him that his time was up, and he certainly expected important promotion in the merchant's service.

"Very well. Now go and learn a trade."

"What trade, sir?"

"Good barrels and butts must be in demand while you live. Go and learn the cooper's trade, and when you have made a perfect barrel bring it to me."

The young man went away and learned the trade, and in time brought to his old master a splendid barrel of his own make.

Girard examined it, and gave the maker two thousand dollars for it, and said to him:

"Now, I want you in my counting-room; but henceforth you will not be dependent upon the whim of Stephen Girard. Let what will come you have a good trade always in reserve."

HOW TO STOP A PAPER.

You have an undoubted right to stop a newspaper whenever you are disposed, upon payment of all arrearages. Don't hesitate to do so on account of any tenderness of feeling for the editor. Don't suppose he would stop buying sugar of you or meat, clothing, dry goods, etc., if he thought he was not getting his money's worth? And when you discontinue a paper, do so manfully. Don't be so little as to throw it back to the post-master with a contemptuous, "I don't want it any longer!" and have "refused" written on the margin, and the paper returned to the editor. No gentleman ever stopped a paper in that way, no matter if his head is covered with gray hairs that should be honorable. If you do not wish longer to receive a newspaper, write a note to the editor like a man, saying so—and be sure that arrearages are paid. This is the way to stop a paper.—*Calhoun Times*.

A DEAF JUROR'S AFFIDAVIT.

Everett Messenger sued the Fourth National Bank to recover \$14,830, claimed to have been deposited, but was beaten on the trial. He moved before Chief Justice Daly, of the Court of Common Pleas, a new trial on an affidavit of one of the jurors that he was deaf and did not hear a word of the testimony, and on the ground of surprise as to the testimony of one of the witnesses. Judge Daly decides that the affidavit of a jury after trial to invalidate the judgment can never be received, and that after a party has taken his chances before a jury he cannot plead surprise. His remedy in such a case was to withdraw a juror and begin anew.—*N. Y. World*, March 20, 1875.

SOMETHING ABOUT LIVINGSTONE AND CENTRAL AFRICA.

II.

A GREAT part of the *Last Journals* consists of matter that has a special interest only to the scientific man or geographer. Dr. Livingstone had lived so long in Africa that he had become accustomed to the novelty and strangeness of his surroundings, and neglected to put down much that would be most interesting to the general reader. It must be remembered, moreover, that the object for which he labored had little to do with these things. What he was in search of was not the material for an interesting book, but information that would be useful in the opening of a new and unexplored field to the world's enterprise and commerce. There are, however, some passages that are all that the general reader could desire, and these make it well worth while to read the book. In the following paragraphs we give some of the most interesting:

"What we understand by primeval forest is but seldom seen in the interior of Africa though the country cannot be described otherwise than as generally covered with innumerable forests. Insects kill or dwarf some trees and men maim others for the sake of the bark-cloth, elephants break down a great number, and it is only here and there that gigantic specimens are seen; they may be expected in shut up valleys among the mountains, but on the whole, the trees are scraggy and the varieties not great. The different sorts of birds that sing among the branches seem to me to exceed those of the Zanzibar region; the number of new notes I hear astonishes me.

"There is nothing interesting in a heathen town. All are busy in preparing food or clothing, mats or baskets, while the women are cleaning and grinding their corn, which involves much hard labor. They first dry this in the sun, then put it into a mortar, and afterward with a flat basket, clean off the husks and the dust, and grind it between two stones, the next thing is to bring wood and water to cook it.

"My remaining here enables me to observe that both men and women are in almost constant employment. The men are making mats or weaving or spinning; no one could witness the assiduity in their little affairs and conclude that they were a lazy people. The only idle time I observed here is in the mornings, about seven o'clock, when all come and sit to catch the first rays of the sun as he comes over our clump of trees, but even that time is often taken as an opportunity for stringing beads."

"Slavery is a great evil everywhere I have seen it. A poor old woman and child are among the captives—the boy, about three years old, seems a mother's pet. His feet are sore from walking in the sun. He was offered for two fathoms and his mother for one fathom; he understood it all and cried bitterly, clinging to his mother. She had of course no power to help him; they were separated afterward.

"(The above is an episode of every-day occurrence in the wake of the slave-dealer. Two fathoms mentioned as the price of the boy's life—the more valuable of the two—means four yards of unbleached calico, which is a universal article of barter throughout the greater part of Africa; the mother was bought for two yards. The reader must not think that there are no lower prices; in the famines which succeed the slave-dealers raids, boys and girls are at times to be purchased by the dealer for a few handfuls of maize.)

"Nsama (the chief) is an old man with head and face like those sculptured on the Assyrian monuments. He has been a great conqueror in his time and with bows and arrows was invincible. He is said to have destroyed many native traders, but twenty Arab guns made him flee from his own stockade, and caused a great sensation in the country. He was much taken with my hair and woolen clothing; but his people, heedless of his scolding, so pressed upon us that we could not converse."

"Nsama's people are particularly handsome. Many of the men have as beautiful heads as one could find in an assembly of Europeans. All have very fine forms with small hands and feet. None of the west-coast ugliness, from which most of our ideas of the negroes are derived is here to be seen."

"The Africans cannot stand sneers. When any mishap occurs in the march, (as when a branch tilts a load off a man's shoulder,) all who see it set up a yell of derision; if anyth'ng is accidentally spilled, or if any one is tired and sits down the same yell greets him, and all are excited thereby to exert themselves. They hasten on with their loads and hurry with the sheds they build, the masters only bringing up the rear and helping any one who may be sick."

"The distances travelled are quite as much as the masters or we could bear. Had frequent halts been made—as, for instance, a half or a quarter of an hour at the end of every hour or two—but little distress would have been felt, but five hours at a stretch is more than men can bear in a hot climate."

"The female slaves held on bravely; nearly all carried loads on their heads, the head or lady of the party, who is also the wife of the Arab, was the only exception. She had a fine white shawl with ornaments of gold and silver on her head. These ladies had a jaunty walk, and never gave in on the longest march; many pounds weight of fine copper leglets about the ankles seemed only to help the sway of their walk; as soon as they arrive at the sleeping place they begin to cook, and in this art they show a great deal of expertness, making savory dishes for their masters out of wild fruits and other not very likely materials."

"The Africans all beckon with the hand to call a person in a different way from what Europeans do. The hand is held palm down, while we beckon with the hand held palm up. It is quite natural to them; for the idea in their minds is to lay their hands on the person and draw him toward them. If the person wished for is near—say forty yards off, the beckeron puts out his right hand, on a level with his breast, and makes the motion of catching the other by shutting the fingers, and drawing him to himself. If the person is farther off, this motion is exaggerated by lifting up the righthand as high as he can; he brings it down with a sweep toward the ground, the hand being still held prone as before. In nodding assent they differ from us by lifting up the chin instead of bringing it down as we do. The lifting up of the chin looks natural after a short usage therewith and is perhaps purely conventional not natural as the other seems to be."

MR. FRANK C. DAVIS, a graduate of the National Deaf-Mute College, has been appointed to a position in the Post-Office at Boston, Mass.

LOOK AFTER THE EYES.

Multitudes of men and women have made their eyes weak for life by the too free use of eyesight, reading small print and doing fine sewing. In view of these things it is well to observe the following rules in the use of the eyes:

Avoid all sudden changes between light and darkness.

Never read by twilight on a very cloudy day.

Never sleep so that on awaking the eyes shall open on the light of the window.

Do not use your eyesight by light so scant that it requires an effort to discriminate.

Never read or sew directly in front of the light of a window.

It is best to have the light from above, or obliquely, or over the shoulder.

Too much light creates a glare, and pains and confuses the sight. The moment you are sensible of an effort to distinguish, that moment stop and talk, walk, or ride.

As the sky is blue and the earth green, it would seem that the ceiling should be a bluish tinge, the carpet green, the walls of some mellow tint.

The moment you are instinctively inclined to rub the eyes, that moment cease to use them.

If the eyelids are glued together on waking, do not forcibly open them, but apply saliva with the finger, and then wash your eyes and face with warm water.

FREDDIE TENNY, of Alleghany, only ten years old, is a mate of the boy who stood on the burning deck, if some one would only sing him into fame. His father and mother being away for all night, Freddie was left to keep house and take care of his younger brother, a five-year-old. During the night Freddie was awakened by smoke and nearly suffocated. He saw that the house was on fire, the floor having caught from the coals that had fallen from the stove in the dining-room. He gathered up his little brother and set him out in the cold, and then proceeded to carry water in a pail and put out the fire. He extinguished the flames, took his little brother back to bed, and both slept till morning, when Freddie called in a family who lived in another part of the house to see what had happened. Two holes were burned through the floor—one two feet in diameter and the other one foot. The little fireman had saved the property, and probably, some lives, and had all the fun to himself. He was charged to take good care of his little brother and keep house, and he did it like a man.

PAPER AS A PLANT PROTECTOR.

A gentleman residing in Guernsey, Channel Islands, writes to say that he has saved his crop of early potatoes under glass by spreading newspapers over them, while his neighbors lost theirs by the severe frosts. He suggests that a convenient number of newspapers be pasted together, and the edges folded over strings, thus making a screen which, suspended over the newspapers spread loosely over the plants, would give the young shoots and excellent protection in the severest cold weather, and from the sun's rays in summer.

AN Irish soldier, pretending to dumbness, and the surgeon of the regiment, after several attempts to restore him declaring him incurable, was discharged. He, in a short time afterwards, enlisted in another corps, and being recognized by an old comrade, and questioned how he learned to speak. "By St. Patrick," replied Paddy, "ten guiness would make any man spake."

THE SILENT WORLD.

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JOHN E. ELLEGOOD Publisher.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 1, 1875.

WANTED.—Number of THE SILENT WORLD for December 1, 1873, for which we will pay ten cents.

OUR subscribers who have received *unsigned* receipts as reminders of the expiration of their subscription, will please attend to them.

WE would call particular attention to the letter from California in the Institution News Department. We are sure our readers will find it very interesting, and do not doubt they will join us in hoping that we may hear from "J. C. H." often.

INVESTIGATIONS, as we are familiar with them, are of comparatively recent origin. It is only of late years that we have had church investigations, Congressional investigations, and investigation of all sorts, big and little. And now the investigating-fever has seized our Institutions for the deaf and dumb. Some two years ago the California Institution was investigated, last year the Illinois Institutions, and this year the Wisconsin and Michigan Institution, have had their turn. We have no desire to discuss the causes and results of all these investigations, except so far as they are matter of news. But there is one thing that we have in our mind when the subject is alluded to and it is to state what this is, for the benefit of one readers, that we speak of the matter at all. These investigations are godsends to a certain class of newspapers. In the best managed institutions in the world there are always some things that, taken by themselves, and considered by persons unacquainted with the institution, its history and surroundings, have a bad look. These things usually prove to be wholly innocent when explained and considered as they should be. No matter how good or bad the management of an institution may be, it is plainly very unfair that these things should be pounced upon, and, by suppressing or distorting the truth, used to prejudice people. But this is precisely what is too often done by the newspapers that publish the longest accounts of the investigations. Anything for a sensation, and the greater the sensation the better, is their motto. We have all been amused at the mistakes and inaccuracies of the newspapers that attempted to report anything in the "silent world," and we can easily imagine the sad work they must often make of an investigation. The fact that an investigation seldom or never turns out as these newspapers predict is proof of the justness of these remarks. We should, therefore, be cautious how far we receive and credit their accounts.

THE recent change in the Post Office laws is of direct personal interest to us all, as we shall find out, more than once to our cost, before the law can be repealed. For some time previous to the change, packages of almost anything not exceeding four pounds in weight could be sent through the mails at the rate of one cent for every two ounces. This, of course, took away a great deal of business from the express companies, for nobody would pay for sending by express what would go cheaper and as safely in the mails. The express companies have done their best, therefore, from the first to have the law changed or repealed, but without success until

the closing hours of the last Congress. In the hurry and confusion just before the adjournment, a measure was passed increasing the rate of postage on all third-class matter to one cent for every ounce, or just double the former rates. But the third-class includes all transient newspapers, all monthly and quarterly magazines, and a great many other things besides the packages that were so obnoxious to the express companies, and the rate is doubled on all these. It was intended to increase the postage on packages only, in the interest of the express companies, to be sure, but if that was all, the discontent that is universally expressed would not be nearly as wide-spread as now. The most inexcusable carelessness and neglect were shown by those whose duty it was to look after the matter, and it was not until several days after the change had become the law that even those who voted for it understood what they had done. It is too late to remedy the evil now; nothing can be done until the next Congress meets in December when the law will certainly be repealed. Meanwhile we are to pay a higher rate of postage than most of us have ever done before on the newspapers and similar matter that we desire to send to our friends, or give up sending them altogether, which will most often be done.

AT the Clarke Institution for deaf-mutes, Northampton, Mass., the idea of having several buildings, instead of one large one, which we noticed in the last number of THE SILENT WORLD, is carried out, and the plan gives the greatest satisfaction, as the following extract from the last report shows: "We have one building for the chapel and school-rooms; another for the girls' residence, where both sexes meet for their meals, and another for the boys. This is undoubtedly more inexpensive than the other system, both in the first cost and in the current expenses; but we believe this is more than overbalanced by greater safety from fire, and by the great advantage of furnishing most of the pupils with separate rooms, instead of gathering them into one large dormitory."

AMONG the many plans suggested to make the coming Centennial exhibition interesting is one that the leading cities should show the marvellous growth of the country by the contribution of a series of models, in plaster, or cork, or *papier machie*, of each city at intervals of time. The site of Chicago, for example, in 1830 would exhibit a few log shanties and a fort in a swamp. Successive representations would show her early squalor, with streets sunken in the mud; then her raised streets and blocks of houses lifted bodily upwards; then her appearance the day before and the day after the great fire; last the splendors of the rebuilt city. Scarce one of our great cities could fail to present a most interesting epitome of its history, if it were thus tangibly set forth. But as the Philadelphia *Press* says, if these models are to be made, the artists have but little time.

PERSONAL.

WE would remind our readers that we are wholly dependent upon their good nature and courtesy for the matter contained in the Personal Department. It does not take long to write and send a short item for this department, yet the shortest item about an old school-mate or friend may be of more value than all the rest of the paper to any one of our readers. We ask, therefore, that each and every one of our readers will consider himself or herself one of the editors of the Personal Column, and send any thing, no matter how little, which may be of interest.

MR. JAMES HADLEY, a graduate of the American Asylum Hartford, Conn., is a school-furniture varnisher, and has been in the business for nine years. He lives now at Bunker Hill, Mass.

MISS LAURETTE A. COOK, who graduated from the American Asylum in 1844, died of dropsy on the fourteenth of last month, at the age of forty years.

Mr. HIRAM P. HUNT and wife, graduates of the American Asylum, at Hartford, Conn., have one of the best farms in Gray, Me., fifteen miles from the city of Portland, containing about one hundred and fifty acres of good land well divided in tillage, grazing, and wood land, all well fenced with stone. The buildings are pleasantly situated on a high hill, and consist of a two-story dwelling-house, with two L's, containing nine rooms besides closets; wood-shed, carriage-house, corn-house, etc. Last spring Mr. Hunt built an addition to his barn forty by sixty feet. His orchard is the largest in the neighborhood, producing from three hundred to five hundred bushels of apples a year. Fruit trees of all kind surround his residence. They have two bright children, a boy and a girl.

Mr. Hunt graduated from the American Asylum in 1838, at the age of fifteen.

A VISITOR.

[CORRESPONDENCE.]

FROM WEST VIRGINIA.

PEEL TREE, BARBOUR Co., W. VA., March 9th, 1875.

To the Editor of THE SILENT WORLD:

During a late visit of Mr. Thomas D. Phillips, of Reitchie Co., West Virginia, one of my classmates in the Virginia Institution for Deaf and Dumb, a pleasant recollection of a rather dangerous adventure of his occurred to me. I have concluded to give you as brief a sketch of it as possible, and you are at liberty to do what you please with it.

The war of the rebellion begun in the Spring of 1861, before the pupils of the Virginia Institution had dispersed to their homes for the vacation as they generally did the later part of June. The contending armies advanced to meet each other between the Alleghany mountains and Laurel Hill and cut off all communications between the pupils and their parents in West Virginia, and still worse the prospects of the pupils getting home before the close of the war, and they were compelled to remain at the Institution during the vacation.

The first year they were as pleasantly and comfortably situated as during any previous vacation. But during the next vacation, hardships became apparent. Most of the pupils had to go out in the country in parties of two and three to work. Commodities were high, and we received stipends insufficient to buy a good homespun suit to wear the year round for nearly two months work.

Upon our return to school, some of the pupils becoming wearied and impatient at the prolonged stay at the Institution and predicting one or two year's continuance of the war, contemplated running away to their homes through the rebel and federal lines. To undertake this they were aware was risky. It was dangerous to try to pass the lines where pickets were stationed on duty, without a hearing companion.

Mr. Phillips was the only pupil who resolved to do it, but as he was preparing to start with a few day's provisions, Mr. Loyd Day, a semi-mute, of Taylor Co., West Virginia, volunteered to accompany him, intending also to reach his home.

After travelling thirty or forty miles, they halted to rest on a log near a stream. Mr. Day began to realize the danger and tried to persuade Mr. Phillips to return to the Institution with him. In order to enforce his entreaties he picked up a small stone, while Mr. P—— was looking carelessly across the stream, and flung it into the water. Mr. P——, upon seeing it, believing a soldier had fired at him, stood up quickly and looked around in an alarmed manner, and exclaimed in gesture with both hands: "I am deaf and dumb."

However, this incident did not daunt his courage; he continued his journey over 150 miles and reached home safely. He did not relate to me the particulars of his trip after he parted with Mr. Day.

JOHN D. PICKENS.

NOTES FROM CHICAGO.

SINCE November last, Mr. E. A. Holmes has been giving the Chicago Deaf-Mute Society condensed recitals from Pilgrim's Progress and these Sunday sign-talks have been very interesting to his auditors. On some occasions he has held their attention two hours. The story of Christian and his experiences as he journeyed to the Heavenly Country is always interesting. Indeed, it has been said that Bunyan's Pilgrims Progress has led more souls to Christ than any book except the Bible.

Recently Mr. P. A. Emery has delivered two lectures before the Society. The first on "The duty of forgiveness and love to enemies," and the second on "the relations of theology to science, or nature to divinity."

Both lectures were calculated to awaken thought and investigation, and the lecturer will probably be importuned for more.

The school for the deaf and dumb of which Mr. Emery is both Principal and sole teacher is doing well, if we may judge from the fact that boys of seven and eight years who knew nothing when the school began now spell rapidly those words usually taught to beginners, and write them very well. We surely think the school will prove a perfect success. Certain it is that the State needs it, for the Institution at Jacksonville is already crowded, and yet not all entitled to its privileges are at school. The Society, grateful to the City board of Education for their generous response to its appeal for a day-school, has duly presented a memorial of thanks in epistolary form.

None of the officers of the Society have ever received pay for the services except the soliciting agent, and his salary is not large. The constitution and by-laws, which were revised and amended some time ago, provide that no officer, except the agent, shall at any time in the future be paid. All are to work for the common good, from generous and disinterested motives.

Initiation fees and monthly dues are required of each member, and as far as possible expenses are reduced.

Had not the conflagration of 1871 robbed some of those who are members of all they had, and the money-panic of last year, and sickness the present year depleted the purses of others, the Society would now be nearly or quite self-supporting.

The object of the Society is improvement, spiritual, mental, social, and moral. The officers are the most intelligent and influential deaf-mutes in the city, who are determined to improve themselves and those under their care as much as possible.

As soon as practicable the Society will be regularly incorporated and conducted according to the most approved parliamentary practices.

The subject debated at the last weekly meeting was "Which is the most desirable, wealth or wisdom?" The subject was ably discussed by both sides, but as there was a diversity in the opinion of the judges, it was decided to continue the debate at the next weekly meeting.

Sabbath, March 15th, was a lovely day, and the attendance at the lecture was very good. When the lecture was over, one of the officers of the Society went to Mr. J. E. Townsend with whom Mr. and Mrs. Holmes were guests, and spent the evening pleasantly. When the day closed the moon shone out full and clear till about nine o'clock, then vivid lightning gave promise of a storm.

Concluding it was time to go home, the young gentleman said his adieu and sallied into the street.

Either he had not noticed the gathering storm, or had expected rain. Be this as it may, upon getting fairly out of the house he felt something which in the darkness looked like compressed snow, pelting him right and left. He thought Mrs. H. was treating him to a snow-balling, and returning to the house to take her to ask therefor, was told that it was "hailing," and was well-laughed at for mistaking hail-stones for snow-balls.

Among the little deaf-mutes of our city who give promise of intelligent and useful lives, is Master Bertie Hathaway, the only brother of Miss Carrie Hathaway. He is six years old, but insists that he is seven years, and is constantly saying something smart or droll. One day, after hallooing hustily at a deaf visitor without eliciting any response, he was told that she was totally deaf, and expressed his disgust by saying in signs: "Her ears are good for nothing."

Mrs. Raffington, who, for some thirty years, has been a resident of this city, is preparing to move to Detroit, Michigan, where her husband has been working for some time. As is well known, he is a skilful engraver, and but for the great fire they would probably be in independent circumstances to-day. About all they saved was a portrait of Mrs. Raffington's father, who, when the fire began, was in a dying condition, and was carried to their family vault only two hours before their home was consumed.

VISITOR.

Chicago, March 20, 1875.

INSTITUTION NEWS.

MINNESOTA.

WE clip the following account of a recent visit of a committee of Legislature, from the Fairbault *Republican* and St. Paul *Pioneer*, which we received through the courtesy of Mr. D. H. Carroll, one of the teachers.

"Upon the arrival of the train the guests were taken in charge by Messrs. Wilson and Barron in behalf of the Directors, and after a ride about the town were conveyed to the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, and proceeded to inspect the shops where trades are taught.

First comes the cooper shop, where thirteen deaf-mutes were industriously engaged in making flour barrels, under the supervision of one of their number. They all appear to take the greatest delight in their work and are turning out a class of work which would reflect credit upon the most experienced workman.

Passing to a neat and substantial two-storied building, thirteen happy, tidy-looking boys were found making boots and shoes, under the direction of Mr. O. S. Blake. Their work is of a coarse description, but is strong and well-finished, giving evidence of more than ordinary mechanical skill, for they have but recently commenced to learn this useful trade.

In the second story is the tailor's shop, the foreman of which is Mr. D. M. Evans. Here are about eight or nine little chaps sitting cross-legged on a platform, busily stitching away on butternut overalls, and shirts. Some five young ladies were sitting about sewing with their fingers or sewing machines, in all forming a very attractive sewing society, differing only from the conventional institution of that name in the lack of chatty gossip.

Returning to the Institution, a short time was spent in viewing the industrial class of girls and misses, about thirty-five of whom were engaged on fancy work, and the production or repairing of clothes for themselves, under the oversight of Mrs. Sarah M. Perry, the assistant matron.

The examination of the pupils in their studies was necessarily very brief. The classes were successively visited in their rooms, where they were found at their ordinary educational work, in charge of their respective teachers, and the visitors questioned them in such a manner as seemed most likely to develop the progress they had made.

After the general tour of inspection the classes were all ministered in the chapel where Superintendent Noyes made a few remarks, setting forth the present situation of the schools.

An address written by one of the deaf-mutes, Jeremiah Kelly, upon the blackboard, was read.

A class in articulation then gave an exhibition of the proficiency they had acquired in interpreting sounds by the motion of the

lips. A lad and two girls took part in a humorous dialogue, in which but for the peculiar tones and inflections of the voice it would not have been known that the conversationalists were unable to hear a word of the colloquy that they carried on with evident enjoyment and animation.

James Smith, an intelligent appearing young lad, also delivered a brief and well-conceived address of welcome, well spoken, with proper modulations, showing that the favored ones who are capable of cultivation in oral exercises, may attain considerable proficiency.

The exercises closed with the recitation of the Lord's Prayer in the sign-language, one of the young ladies leading with gestures of exceeding grace, the pupils repeating the signs.

One of the pleasantest sights was to witness the love and confidence which the pupils exhibited for and in their teachers, and especially for Mr. Noyes, whose presence was always greeted with beaming smiles, and whose words of encouragement seemed to afford the most intense satisfaction and happiness. If punishment is inflicted, it is of some light description, such as depriving the culprit of some little pleasure, and never by whipping. Every effort is made to impress upon the offender that the punishment is intended for his good."

CALIFORNIA.

ONE warm, pleasant afternoon lately, the editor of the *Oakland Daily Transcript* paid a visit to the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind. The following article about our new temporary building appeared in the paper of the next morning:

"Our citizens will not soon forget the sad yet sublime spectacle of the burning of that noble edifice near Berkeley, known as the Deaf and Dumb and Blind Institution. To day the ruins of the stately pile stand out in gloomy contrast to the hills with verdure clad in the background, and the gently descending slopes clad in their Spring dress, which stretch away to the margin of the Bay. The walls and turrets with the lofty skeleton chimneys looming up like huge stalagmites, remind one of the pictures of the ruined castles of feudal times.

"The fire which destroyed this splendid edifice occurred on January 17th, 1875. The contract for erecting a temporary structure was promptly entered into with Mr. Alfred W. Burrel, and carpenter's work on the new building was commenced as early as February 15th, thanks to the energy displayed by Warring Wilkinson, Principal, J. Mars Moss, and the Board of Directors. The building is being put up two hundred feet in a northwesterly direction from the late Institution, It is in shape somewhat like the capital letter T. It presents an entire frontage north and south of one hundred and fifty feet. The wing running east with the hill is sixty by twenty feet. On the north and south of the main structure are projections or extensions, which will be occupied as laboratories, bath-rooms and hospital. The wing will be set apart for the culinary department, servants, and store-room.

"The first story is being cut up into class-rooms, and main offices in front; and in the rear, two sitting-rooms, and the dining-hall.

"On the second floor are two dormitories, one for the boys and the other for the girls, with the rooms of the officers of the Institution sandwiched between the two. The halls are broad, and airy, and afford ample means for instant egress in the event of any calamity similar to that which has occurred. The building throughout will be thoroughly ventilated and heated, and abundantly supplied with water and light.

"Under the superintendence of the veteran and industrious mechanic J. M. Duncan work is being prosecuted vigorously. The building is going up with magical rapidity, but not at the expense of strength substantiality and security. Fifty men are employed, and there is no doubt that this temporary Institution will be completed within the time specified in the contract, i. e., April 6th. And the contract price will not be exceeded, for there will be no "extras" allowed even to the extent of a single dollar. This contract price is \$14,870, a sufficient sum to complete the building in such a manner as to meet the wants of those who are to occupy it. On the 14th of April, the now scattered pupils will be gathered into their new fold and the present vacation be at an end. All of them are anxious to return. They say that while they are enjoying themselves at home, or among friends, they had rather be a school again. Of course at the next session of the Legislature an appropriation for a permanent structure worthy of the State will be asked for. It is the intention of the Directors of the Institution to have the present building converted into work-shops as soon as it is vacated for the new and more commodious edifice hereafter to be built. Meantime it will be a safe and comfortable harbor of refuge for the unfortunate and helpless waifs who are dependent on the generosity and benevolence of a rich and prosperous State for their education and livelihood."

The temporary building in all its departments is apparently small but will be quite comfortable; and it is likely to have a sufficient capacity for at least one hundred pupils. It will probably be greatly crowded before a new and more commodious Institution can be completed by the fall of 1877. Before the work on our temporary building was commenced it was quite doubtful if it would be finished by April 6th; at present we are sure that the work will be faithfully done by that

time. Under the first floor—is put some mortar in order to deafen the floor, and, especially, to keep the house warm when the wind are prevalent.

It is said that Mr. Wilkinson is in communication with some architects about the the best fire—and earthquake—proof structure for the new and permanent institution. He means to have plans prepared so as to show the most perfect specifications to the Legislature as soon as it meets in the month of December next. When the Legislature and the Governor have approved the plans the work will immediately be commenced perhaps in 1876.

The Principal, the teachers, and a few pupils who do not go home during the present vacation, and other persons are living at the house of Mrs. Batchelder, which lies close to our ground—a distance of one-fifth of a mile north from the late Institution.

Two or more deaf-mute, one of whom I am, will probably not come back to school, when it opens on April 11th, because we, previous to the fire destroying our noble and grand Institution, intended to graduate next June. There will be no vacation till December 1st, when school commences. I can imagine how warm will be the days of summer while at school.

During the present vacation the teachers are enjoying their time in visiting San Francisco, where they frequently stay several days. Some deaf-mutes residing in San Francisco, attend the church for the deaf and dumb every Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

For some weeks past the weather has been very fair and pleasant; but occasionally, as yesterday afternoon, it has been extremely cold on account of the northwest winds.

J. C. H.

Oakland Cal., March, 14, 1875.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Among the pupils of the MINNESOTA INSTITUTION is a girl about fifteen years old who ploughed fifty-five acres of land last spring.

The MINNESOTA INSTITUTION is supplied with water from a living spring which never fails. The water rises within the building to the second story. It has not been frozen during the winter.

The LE COUTEUX ST. MARY'S INSTITUTION, located at Buffalo, N. Y., has received \$22,955.62, and expended \$22,832 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1874. There are 90 pupils in attendance.

The MINNESOTA INSTITUTION asks for an appropriation of \$20,000 to commence building the main building, to prepare the cut stone for the walls, and to put in the foundation. It is estimated that \$100,000 will be required to complete the edifice. The two wings, which are completed, are already greatly crowded.

At the MICHIGAN INSTITUTION great preparations were lately made to receive a large legislative party. On the appointed day the party was unable to get to the Institution on account of the snow-drifts on the railroads. Accordingly the sixty plump roast turkeys prepared for the visitors were given to the pupils for their Sunday dinner, and they were fully consoled for their disappointment.

DEAF-MUTE COLLEGE.

A CATALOGUE of the College will be issued shortly after Presentation Day.

A PREP has recently been about in his linen coat. One of the signs of spring, eh?

THE exercises of Presentation Day will take place upon Wednesday afternoon April 7th 1875.

MR. JOHN A. PRINCE, of the selects, is just recovering from a severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism.

HON. GEORGE F. EDMUNDS, Senator from Vermont, has been re-appointed a Director of the Columbia Institution for the term of two years.

BALL-PLAYING, leap frog, running and jumping are the amusement brought into practice lately, 'tis only one more sign that spring is approaching.

PROF. CHICKERING, who was suddenly called to Hartford on the 14th inst., to attend the funeral ceremonies of a sister-in-law, returned to duties on the following Friday.

THE Re-actionary Lifter is being made the principle focus of attraction by those inclin'd to see how many hundred pounds they can lift; nor is the number few.

THE old hydrant near the College building, after snoozing for several months, again gives forth a steady flow of the sparkling beverage—water—pure water to be sure.

ICE in Milwaukee, Wis., is six feet thick, and the thermometer was recently 52 degrees below zero! so says Mr. Balis. He has examined his skates.

LUCKY is he who had no condition to make up; for the Faculty saith unless those conditions are made up soon, the "ulucky ones" will find a asterisk attached to [their names in the forthcoming Catalogue, signifying conditioned.

THE authorities of the College and Institution for deaf-mutes submitted as estimate of appropriation required for the next fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, in their last annual report the following amounts

For the support of the Institution, including salaries and incidental expenses and \$1,500 for books and illustrative apparatus, \$49,000.

For continuing the work on the erection and fitting-up of the buildings of the Institution \$25,000,

For the improvement and care of the grounds of the Institution \$4,000 Total \$128,000.

THE season for snow-balling is over but it has left its mark among those of the students who enjoyed the cold sport, as witness their lean wallets and down-cast countenances occasioned by their having to pay for the smashing of window panes.

For a week or two past, a simoc pure son of Ethiopia, armed with a sheet-iron bugle-corn and an oyster-can, containing a few quart of the bivalvous animals, has been filling the air about the college with sweet strains of music, generally about dinner time, calling upon the lovers of the bivalves to purchase of him. We noticed him the other day sitting on the steps leading to the dining-hall and blowing on his bugle-horn dreadfully in earnest, but without effecting the hearing organs of his wished-for customers. Perhaps he hasn't found out yet that we are deaf.

MR. THORPE suddenly found himself inside of the dining-hall the other night at a quarter past six, in his overcoat, his hat drawn tightly over his ears and eyes, his face red as a boiled lobster and he seemed to be breathing with difficulty, but all these were forgotten in the curiosity which something in his hand excited a close inspection brought out the fact that it was his demolished umbrella. The wind did it. It carried the umbrella off and the owner was dragged at an amazing rate till he came into collision with the college building.

While this sum falls short of the amount asked for by \$40,000, yet we think the friends especially interested in the progress and welfare of the college have abundant reason to rejoice that Congress regarded the Institution so liberally, especially when times are so hard. It becomes the duty now of those for whom the college was established to put forth still greater efforts in attaining a good sound education and thereby show the representatives of the people at large that their munificent gifts to the Institution were not voted away in vain.

DIED:

IN Stoughton, Mass., Jan. 28, 1875, after a short but painful sickness of five days, OTHELLO DELOS WAYDEN. Aged 23 years, 1 month, 28 days. Deceased was a pupil of the American Asylum, Hartford, Conn ten years, graduated in the class of 1873, and ever honored his beloved friends and Principal, Rev. Collins Stone, and true in his last moments to his saint friend, he closed his young life in prayer to God.

IN Peterborough, N. H., on March 13, Mrs. ELIZA MORRISON, aged 73 years. Mrs. Morrison was one of the earliest pupils of the American Asylum, Hartford, Conn., being educated under the tutorship of Thomas Gallaudet and Laurent Clerc.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Every-day cheerfulness is one of the great virtues.

Dried horse liver makes an admirable imitation of coffee.

A birth every five minutes in London, and a death every eight minutes.

A live trout, seven inches long, was taken from a fire-plug, in St. John, N. B., recently.

In Hungary sheep are fed upon tobacco in a green state, and they thrive upon it.

Miss Nancy Hills, of Warren, Conn., has a bushel of perfectly sound russet apples, picked up in 1873.

A New York merchant, who advertised for a boy, found one in a basket on his door-step next morning.

A HINT.—"I wish I was a pudding, mamma!" "Why?" "Cause I should have such lots of sugar put into me."

The Texas Legislature proposes to make it a penal offence for a person to walk on a railroad. If Legislatures go on in this manner there will soon be no way in which a man can legally make a fool of himself.

A telegram was lately sent from New York to London and back through four circuits—7200 miles in thirty minutes, or 240 miles a minute.

Athens, Ohio, paid \$600 for a bell before finding out that there wasn't a cupola in town big enough to hold it. They have had to hang it on a fence-post.

It is estimated that four out of every six dollars wasted in this country in intoxication, comes from those who depend on their daily toil for subsistence.

The lazy school boy who spelled Andrew Jackson "Jaxon," has been equalled by a student who marked the first one of half a dozen new shirts "John Jones," and the rest "do."

"Sixty thousand children growing up in ignorance in consequence of their employment at too early an age in factories," is the way the Massachusetts superintendent of education puts it.

The United States comes creditably out of the *Virginius* affair, Spain paying some \$80,000 indemnity. This gives \$2,500 for each of the crew executed, and more for the officers.

Double eagles to the amount of \$860,000 were turned out in a single day recently at the San Francisco mint—the largest day's work ever performed by any mint in the United States.

A Michigan convict who was pardoned on condition that he would abstain from drinking intoxicating liquor has just been returned to the penitentiary for violating his agreement.

The people of Lyons, N. Y., are buying ice a ta dollar a ton, and—melting it down so as to obtain water to meet their wants. Two-thirds of the cisterns of that place are dry.

The perfection attained by modern machinery is marvellous. Burned peas put into the hopper of a coffee mill, in less than two minutes can occupy a place in a grocery window labelled "Fine Old Mocha."

A very religious old lady being asked her opinion of the organ of a church, the first time she had ever heard one, replied, "It is a very pretty box of whistles, but, oh! it's an awful way to spend the Sabbath."

A gentleman drove a sorrowful looking horse into town last Saturday, and stopping in front of Bank Block, he requested a small boy to hold him a moment. "Hold 'im!" exclaimed the boy. "Just lean him up against the post; that'll hold 'im."

A terrific hail-storm swept over many parts of the Southern and Western States March 15, doing great damage. The town of Rienzi in Mississippi, was nearly destroyed, and several persons were killed and injured. In Michigan hail-stone measuring twelve inches in circumference were afterward picked up.

During the intensely cold weather of February a gentleman in the country missed his large newfoundland dog from his accustomed place. After an absence of two days and nights, his bark was heard and he was found in a swamp about half a mile distant, with his tail frozen fast in the ice, an axe was obtained and his tail cut out. The poor dog was nearly exhausted by hunger and exposure.

Here is a paragraph for American gentlemen who go abroad to replenish their wardrobes—or stay at home and wear imported goods. Great Britain paid last year nearly three million dollars for woolen rags. This refuse, gathered from the ends of the earth, is pulled to pieces by a machine not improperly called a "devil," and manufactured into cloth for coating and similar fabrics.

The Austin Powder Company's mills, five miles south of Cleveland, Ohio, blew upon March 16. The works, which consisted often or twelve buildings, were completely demolished, large fragments of timber and heavy machinery being thrown a considerable distance. There were eight or ten men at work in and about the mill at the time of the explosion, three of whom were killed, the others escaping with a few slight bruises.

The great ice gorge in the Delaware River at Port Jervis was broken up and swept away by a flood March 17, a portion of the town was inundated, and considerable property was destroyed. The suspension-bridge was carried away, and the Erie Railroad bridge, several miles above the town, met with the same fate. The destruction of the latter bridge was thrown over 800 men out of employment. The total loss of property in the town is estimated at from \$50,000 to \$100,000. Fortunately the people had fair warning of the approach of the flood, and no lives were lost.

We haven't had all the cold weather on this side after all. Dr. De Haas, the American Consul at Jerusalem, sends the information that for the first time known to the present inhabitants the cold weather was so severe as to form ice. The Arabs, having never seen ice before, were completely puzzled and could not understand "why water should change into glass!"

The Civil Rights Bill is having one good effect that its friends did not anticipate. Since its passage most of the republicans "down South," in order to keep their "saloons" and bar-rooms respectably genteel, have raised their prices of drinks so high as to prevent any colored person from "taking something" at such high-priced and aristocratic resorts.

The revenue of the Dominion of Canada is about \$3,400,000 in excess of disbursements, and the announcement of this fact in London has caused an increased demand for Canadian securities. In the United States, with war taxes in force, it has been found necessary to create new taxes to the amount of about \$40,000,000 in order to save the Treasury from bankruptcy.

Count Valmaseda, the new Captain-General of Cuba, has arrived at Havana. He brings one thousand soldiers with him, and has issued a proclamation, in which he says additional reinforcements will soon arrive from Spain, and with the aid of the people, under the battle-cry of "Spain, Religion, and the King," Cuba will be saved. He proposes to have the revenues of the government honestly applied, and the soldiers well and justly treated. The insurgents have burned several plantations in the sugar district, and have defeated a small Spanish column in the jurisdiction of Santa Clara.

There is a probability that the railroad war now raging between the Pennsylvania and the Baltimore and Ohio companies may become general among the trunk lines. When these companies fell out, the Pennsylvania was bound, by what is known as the Saratoga Compact, not to reduce freight rates below certain limits. It is claimed by the other compacting companies that the Pennsylvania, in order to compete with the Baltimore and Ohio, has reduced its rates below the limits, and has thus broken the agreement. This opens the way to a general reduction and the sport will now be to see which concern can carry for the nearest to nothing. The public can stand this sort of thing as long as the railroad companies can.

Archbishop Mc Closkey, of New York, has been created the first North American Cardinal by the Pope. The new Cardinal will still continue to exercise his functions as Archbishop. The Cardinals rank next in dignity to the Pope himself. There are at present forty-nine of these dignitaries. Twenty-seven of these are members of the Pope's household. Cardinals wear red hats and purple mantles, and are addressed by the title of "Your Eminence." The actual work of the Cardinals is light, their principal functions being the election of new Popes. When a Pope dies the Cardinals meet and continue in session until his successor is elected. For several centuries it has been the custom to select Pope, from among the Cardinals.

There is considerable excitement in relation to a marriage which is to occur in London. An eminent Hindoo is to marry a London beauty. The gentleman in this case is Mutu Coomara Swamy. Swamy is a title, and literally means "God." Queen Victoria has made him Sir Mutu Coomara, for he is an eminent member of her Majesty's Council in Ceylon, and has written some Oriental books of high value. The lady is distinguished in her circle as an artist, and is very beautiful. No case of intermarriage between a Hindoo and a person of the English race seems to have ever been known before. Old residents of India say it is unprecedented, and that if the Mutu were to take his bride to any part of India, both of them would be treated by the whites as pariahs or outcasts.

The walls of a warehouse that had been burned a few days before, were hurled by the high wind on the evening of February 25th, against St. Andrew's (Roman Catholic) Church, Duane Street, New York, whilst the congregation were assembled at vespers, and went crashing through the roof falling on the east gallery, killing six persons and maiming others. Fortunately, the gallery withstood the severe shock. A panic seized the congregation, and a rush was made for the door. Every one sought to secure his own escape regardless of every one else. The stairways and doors were blocked up by the excited crowd, and many were thrown down and seriously injured, and others sustained severe bruises and confusions.